

believing prayer.

"They that strength, they shall run and not faint."*
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of the shadow of death ;"* "that when flesh and heart are failing, then God shall be the strength of his heart and his portion forever."† We are accordingly told that "the righteous hath hope in his death,"‡ and are invited to "mark the perfect man and behold the upright, for the end of that man is peace."§

There is the *promise of immediate happiness after death*. Thus Jesus assured the dying malefactor, "Verily I say unto you, to day shalt thou be with me in Paradise."|| Cheered by this delightful prospect, Paul had "a desire to depart and be with Christ ;"¶ and upon this ground declared it, as the experience of himself and his fellow christians—"we are confident I say and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord."***

There is the *promise of a glorious resurrection*. Jesus says, "I am the resurrection and the life, he that believeth in me, though he were dead yet shall he live,"†† and again—"this is the will of Him that sent me, that every one that seeth the Son and believeth on Him, may have everlasting life, and I will raise him up at the last day."‡‡

There is, finally, the *promise of everlasting rest and glory in the immediate presence of God*. Thus our gracious Redeemer tells his sorrowing disciples ; "In my father's house are many mansions : if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also ;"§§ and thus "we according to his promise look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness ;"||| knowing assuredly that "there remaineth a rest for the people of God."¶¶¶ And what a

* Psal. 23. 4.

† Luke 23. 43.

‡† John 6. 40.

† Psal. 73. 26.

¶ Phil. 1. 23.

§§ John 14. 2, 3.

‡ Prov. 14. 32.

** 2 Cor. 5. 8.

||| 2 Pet. 3. 13.

§ Psal. 37. 37.

†† John 11. 25.

¶¶ Heb. 4. 9.